



Together we can...
build corporate
partnerships



Working together... daring to defy barriers

Every day, Pursuing Independent Paths – PIP – helps adults with learning disabilities get closer towards living a more independent, happy, healthy and fulfilled life.

We work directly with people who have a learning disability and their families and, at the same time, also work with the wider community to help raise awareness of learning disability, educate and build confidence.

A key component of our work is to reduce the disadvantage that many people with learning disabilities face. To achieve this, we work with companies – like yours. We have an excellent track record in building valuable and meaningful corporate partnerships that are tailored to meet specific business needs.

Working together... small and local charity partner

PIP is a small London-based charity. Because we are a smaller organisation, this means we are very close to and in tune with what we do: we are a small, dedicated team so we can make decisions quickly, we build strong relationships because we are passionate about our work and we do everything in our power to be a great charity partner.

Working together... spotlight on the potential

A corporate partnership makes a swift and direct impact at PIP. If you volunteer for us, or host a work experience placement, you will be enthused and energised about it for a long time; if you make a donation or help us raise funds, then the results are clear to see. The best way to understand this is to come along to a PIP activity and see for yourself. No one has ever walked away from PIP or a PIP event not feeling and understanding how much of a difference our charity makes to people's lives.



PIP delivers accredited educational training, including numeracy and how to handle money.

Employee engagement... from imagin

Mutually beneficial relationships are central to how we work at PIP and we have a variety of opportunities for your employees to engage with us. We'll work with you to offer the best, most appropriate and tailor-made opportunities for them to volunteer with us.

Volunteering... from stepping stones to milestones

We love welcoming people into the PIP family. Whether it's volunteering for a day or a year, we guarantee that your employees will leave with a smile on their face, understanding a lot more about people with learning disabilities, about their local community, about the role of the charity sector, and about the importance and impact of our work at PIP.

Frontline volunteering gives your employees the opportunity to engage directly with people with learning disabilities by supporting their day-to-day activities at PIP. This can also include volunteers delivering bespoke sessions. We understand that first-time volunteering can be daunting and we offer an introduction to learning disability awareness session, as well as further training if needed.

HM Revenue and Customs

Volunteers from HM Revenue and Customs regularly deliver tax workshops to people with learning disabilities at PIP as part of their core skills training on numeracy and literacy. Their sessions are well thought-out and thoroughly enjoyed – they definitely make tax fun! An HMRC volunteer says:

"I gained so much personally from the volunteering project, for which I feel guilty. The experience was humbling. I hope that the PIP group enjoyed the experience as much as I did, and as we could all see, they certainly did take in a lot of information. Volunteering has enabled me to rediscover the skills I already had, and evaluate how I use them, especially in my role which is mainly customer-based face-to-face contact. I will definitely be encouraging my colleagues to consider volunteering; in my opinion it has value for both HMRC's customers and staff."



ation to transformation

Skills-based volunteering

gives your employees the opportunity to use their particular areas of expertise to support PIP's business operation, particularly valuable to a small organisation (with a small budget).

Fundraising

volunteering includes helping us to deliver fundraising events or collections, holding a small event for colleagues, or participating individually or as a team in a sponsored challenge event such as the PIP Mountain Bike Challenge, our signature event.



John Lewis

John Lewis Oxford Street selected PIP as an official charity partner in 2015. The company offered volunteer support, work placements and raised £15,000 for PIP. It continues to support PIP in many ways.

John Lewis says:

"Partners (employees) have given really good feedback after volunteering at PIP. Your staff always make it very clear how Partners can muck in and help and there is something very special about volunteering alongside the people who are benefiting. I've worked with lots of charities and I really do love working with PIP; you are always good fun, and creative with your volunteering ideas. I feel like Partners have become a part of PIP"



There are many team fundraising opportunities at PIP.





As part of a six-week project, volunteers from L'Oréal delivered a one-day workshop on 'the perception of beauty'.

Barclays

The European legal team at Barclays held a small event to raise money for PIP. It was a European wine and cheese night, which was very appropriate! The event raised £1,000. Barclays says:

"We are delighted with the amount raised for PIP and would like to thank everyone who supported us to make this happen. Alongside our 5 Million Young Futures commitment, Barclays has a fantastic community investment programme that encourages employees to get involved in the causes we care about. It's about giving back our skills, time and energy to support our local communities – so we're thrilled to be involved with PIP!"

British Land

When British Land selected PIP as one of its local charity partners, a team of volunteers helped us physically to expand our project and office space into the property next door. This pro bono support and expertise was fundamental to PIP's growth and expansion, and directly enabled us to support more people in an improved learning and working environment.



Kelly (pictured on the right on the cover) used her art skills to create a mural commissioned by two PIP sponsors – Wates and British Land – to be displayed at their local construction site.



Work placements... expanding horizons

In our everyday working lives, there are many things that most of us take for granted.

We get up early, rush for the tube or bus, read the free paper, grab a coffee and interact with colleagues. We settle down, and do our day's work. Although working for a living is a huge part of most of our lives, we don't usually stop to consider the various elements that make up our working day, and their importance to our individual autonomy, sense of self and independence.

However, the reality is that only 1 in 10 people with a learning disability is in any form of paid employment. Only 1 in 10 people gets to benefit from the experiences that working create – the things we take for granted.

You can help redress the balance, by offering someone from PIP a voluntary work placement. This will help them learn and practise work skills and give them vital experience to add to their CV in the hope that they will find paid employment in the future. A voluntary work placement with your company is a huge stepping stone for the individual, and it also builds knowledge, experience and understanding of employing someone with a learning disability among your workforce.

Mayer Brown

City law firm Mayer Brown hosts one-day work experience placements for people at PIP several times a year. After speaking to our work placement lead, Mayer Brown is able to prepare a list of real tasks that it needs help with. PIP then matches this task list to an individual's skills, abilities and interests. Mayer Brown says:

"I knew this placement would be a positive learning curve for Mayer Brown, but what I didn't anticipate was the volume of emails and comments that I received from people about how positive the experience had been!"

Laing O'Rourke

Laing O'Rourke has provided a long-term weekly work placement for over two years. The company says:

"Narjis is a valued member of our team here at our Clarges Project. Narjis is able to log on to her computer, read her emails and carry out requests sent via email for printing, collating and stapling. Narjis is always keen to help the team and looks forward to meeting and chatting with the team."

Narjis says: "I do hole punching, stamping, photocopying and sending emails. Georgie helps me! I love it, it's my favourite work. I work hard!"



PIP... delivering opportunities

Team building... delivering a unique edge

PIP has offered team building opportunities to companies for several years. We can either help organise an activity, or the activity itself can have a voluntary element and include people with learning disabilities. Either way, having philanthropy at the heart of a team building event gives it a unique edge and helps reflect your company's commitment to social responsibility.

Oliver Wyman

Oliver Wyman, a global management consultancy firm, got to know PIP after helping to develop our strategy and three-year plan as part of its Social Impact Programme. Oliver Wyman then asked PIP to organise dinner and quiz nights as part of its training programme for new consultants from across Europe. This is a fun, social event where colleagues can get to know each other, as well as offering an early reflection to new employees of the firm's commitment to the local community and having a positive social impact. Oliver Wyman says:

"Working with PIP gives us many great opportunities to engage our employees. They are a pleasure to work with."



Rockspring

Employees at Rockspring, an international property investment company, arranged and delivered a summer sports day for people at PIP (above), and says: *"Thank you so much for having us yesterday. I hope that everyone enjoyed the sports day as much as I did! It was a real pleasure to spend the day in the company of such an inspirational group of young adults."*

Secondments... delivering insight and innovation

Secondments offer people the opportunity to develop and transfer their skills in a different setting. A secondment at PIP is a useful vehicle for your employees to try new experiences and learn different skills to bring back to their workplace.

PIP offers part-time secondment opportunities for up to one year in the following areas:

- social media and IT
- marketing and communication
- event management
- fundraising
- human resources
- frontline service delivery



John Lewis

Megan took on a secondment at PIP for two days a week between June 2014 and January 2015 through the Golden Jubilee Trust. She says:

"Working at PIP has been a truly unique and wonderful experience, from getting to know people who attend PIP to helping them prepare outfits for a carnival, to supporting them with yoga, literacy and cooking sessions. It has taught me how to be a better communicator, and the importance of communication; I can help someone with a learning disability to deliver their message. This is something I will use in my day-to-day job. I also gained new skills by using programmes such as digi-products to help produce emails for mail shots and mail chimp to produce monthly newsletters. I would highly recommend a secondment at PIP."



Volunteers supporting PIP Theatre Company's annual production.



Together we can... build corporate partnerships

Event sponsorship... investing in partnerships for fundraising

PIP runs several key events during the year for which we actively seek event sponsors. All sponsorship packages (as a minimum) include online promotion of the sponsor company through PIP's website and social media channels, plus highly visible logos and signage at events and on all printed materials and programmes.

We are keen to work with companies to build successful sponsorship packages that meet your needs. You will find PIP a supportive, open and highly rewarding organisation to work with. As well as a range of one-off events, our annual event sponsorship opportunities include:

- **PIP Mountain Bike Challenge:** this is the biggest fundraising event in our annual calendar bringing in a diverse audience
- **PIP Theatre Company's annual production:** performances have been hosted at the Victoria & Albert Museum



Top: Skills training for Danny – a mock job interview.



Above: Seriously fun – the annual PIP Mountain Bike Challenge.



Shaking the bucket at Tesco. There are many ways that companies can incorporate fundraising with volunteering at PIP.



Having a laugh at the L'Oréal workshop.

Corporate giving... investing in life-changing opportunities



As PIP is a small charity, we need to fundraise for a significant percentage of our **running costs** each year. PIP has low administration costs and our

funds are targeted at frontline services: we are therefore able to demonstrate excellent value for money for our donors.

We have a number of **grant and donation opportunities** for corporates, which include exclusive employee **volunteering opportunities** as highlighted in this leaflet.

An **operational grant** is one of the most significant ways a company can make a tangible and measurable impact. The wide-ranging nature of our work means that PIP funding opportunities are highly likely to tie in with your community and social responsibility priorities.

Companies can also **sponsor a PIP placement** for someone with a learning disability. We can use this donation to support an individual who may not otherwise be able to access PIP's services.



£11,500

funds one placement for one person for one year to attend PIP three days a week



£5,000

funds one PIP session for one year: sessions include, for example, numeracy, literacy, creative arts and healthy living

Finding out more

To arrange a visit to PIP, or to discuss engagement opportunities, please contact:

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Registered charity number 1088592

Registered company number 04107226

Published May 2016

Photographs by Daniel Balica, Khalid Bari, Virgin Money London Marathon 2016 and PIP
Edited and designed by www.portfoliopublishing.com